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DECLASS REVIEW by NIMA/DOD

ESS-252/61  
31 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CIA/PAD (NPIC)

25X1A

FROM: [REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Addition of Grids to all Photography

1. The addition of grids to the original negative would greatly simplify the task of PI's in PAD while assuring greater accuracy and uniformity in coordinate reporting.

2. The samples provided appear to be satisfactory for our purposes with a few exceptions:

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(a) As stated by TISD, the Y coordinates, if included, should be numerical rather than alphabetical to allow for subdivision. There is a question as to whether Y coordinates are necessary. [REDACTED] of [REDACTED] mentions the necessity for a device to lacquer the Y coordinates to preserve them during the duplicating process. This may entail an extra step and increased time lag in the process of getting the material to us for first viewing. Since the Y coordinates will need to be read from some sort of small template in any case, it might be advisable to drop the requirement for them from the proposal.

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(b) A series of templates will be required to read Y values for the various film sizes from [REDACTED]. For the smaller film widths these need only be two or three centimeter squares wide but as the film widths increase some system must be used to insure the Y scale being normal to the film edge. Either the width of the grid template must be increased or the X coordinates could be simultaneously registered on both edges of the film. The latter would be more satisfactory since it would allow easier referencing on wider material being viewed in a viewer such as the new [REDACTED]. Also, personnel in the field would only require a centimeter rule to lay across the film for Y coordinates.

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(c) A decision should be arrived at regarding the placing of the X and Y coordinates. It has been suggested that Y be along the line of flight and that X be normal to the line of flight. This would be satisfactory for those cases where the travel is normal to the line of flight but could result in confusion among the analysts in B-mount situations where the film travel is along the line of flight, since the Y coordinate would be along the long axis of the film.

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DMD/NPIC-220-61  
31 August 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD -

SUBJECT: Comments on Addition of Grid to all Photography

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1. The problem of adding grids during titling operation to all aerial photography has been discussed with several of the Lab people re how it would benefit us in our work. It was agreed that such titling on "T" photography would be of no value to us and that the present system of overlays to indicate areas to be enlarged would have to be continued. On "KH" material it would be of value and in our opinion would save considerable time in locating pertinent areas particularly on the 20X enlarger and we believe on the new 10, 20, 40 X enlarger. It is suggested that an inquiry be made at ☐ re the possibility of calibrating the film carrier in one (1) centimeter increments to allow the operator to accurately set up the Y coordinates.

2. The fact that such a grid would not appear in exactly the same place on each frame of photography does not effect our operation provided that all copies are made from the ON and not regridded at a later date.



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